



**GOVERNOR'S ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
General Meeting – July 17, 2012
10:00 A.M.**

Location: 1700 W. Washington
Grand Canyon Conference Room
Phoenix, AZ

Members Present: Dr. Craig Barrett (telephonic), Superintendent John Huppenthal, Dr. Tom Anderes, Tim Carter (telephonic), Senator Rich Crandall (telephonic), Pearl Esau, Representative Tom Forese, Dr. Michael Kearns (telephonic), Jake Logan, Amanda McAdams, Diane McCarthy, Nancy Meech, Jaime Molera, Colleen Niccum, Onnie Shekerjian, Merl Waschler, and Dr. Jim Zaharis

Members Absent: Don Cardon, Rep. Doris Goodale, and Kathy Player

Staff Present: Dale Frost, Rebecca Gau, and Debra Raeder-Gay

1. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Craig Barrett called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Dr. Barrett indicated that purpose of the meeting is to;

- Review and discuss updates from education policymakers
- Review and discuss progress on Arizona's plan to implement the Arizona Common Core State Standards
- Review and discuss recommendations from task forces

Dr. Barrett advised the audience that "Request to Speak" forms are located at the back of the room. Anyone wishing to address the Council during the Call to the Public portion of the agenda needs to submit a form to Debra.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Superintendent John Huppenthal moved for the approval of the May 17, 2012 Council meeting minutes as presented. Diane McCarthy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Reports & Updates

- **Arizona Department of Education**

Superintendent Huppenthal advised his update would be covered in the Implementation of the Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards update.

- **Update on ADE IT Work Group**

The Superintendent introduced Pam Smith from ADE to provide an update on the work of the ADE IT Work Group on behalf of Mark Masterson. Pam Smith introduced members of the ADE IT Work Group, Jeff Billings with Paradise Valley Unified School District, Sharon Hart with PetSmart, Ayman Taha with Avnet, and Nimish Shah from Intel. Mr. Shah provided a brief summary on the Work group's progress. Mr. Shah reviewed the gaps the Work group has identified;

- Need to establish a clear alignment and accountability between IT and business stakeholders (schools and school districts)
- Centralize supplier management and procurement
- Drive Copy Exactly
- Establish clear data governance role/owners for all Arizona schools and districts
- Hire a key portfolio manager
- Create a Governance Committee of stakeholders (schools and school districts)
- Need an assessment of existing technical skills in IT organizations

The Work group was tasked to continue discussion on a stakeholder based Governance Committee, the need to establish accountability between IT and stakeholders, and further investigate finding options.

- **State Board of Education**

Jaime Molera, President of the State Board of Education, briefly reviewed the Innovative Education Program Grants focusing on practice that approve student achievement in mathematics, and demonstrating commit to address the needs of rural students, the K-3 Reading Funds, and the Board's 2013 priorities;

- PARCC implementation
- Restoration of Adult Education funding (\$5M)
- Restructured school day/calendar (more time on task)
- AZ LEARNS / "Academic Receivership" enhancements
- Mathematics focus
- Embedded CTE credits
- School safety (restructured teacher/administrator disciplinary proceedings)

- **Governor's Office of Education Innovation**

Rebecca Gau, Director of the Governor's Office of Education Innovation (GOEI), reported on the work of her office to facilitate implementation of the Arizona Ready Education Plan. Ms. Gau announced that the press release relating to the Arizona Ready Report Card would be issued soon. Ms. Gau discussed the work of the Data Quality Campaign (DQC) as it relates to the Report Card and will update the Council further on that work in the next Council meeting. Ms. Gau stated that her office along with ADE and the Regional Centers has started a collaborative effort to support the Arizona Common Core Standards. GOEI staff recently attended the College Board Conference which collaborated meetings between Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah to discuss links and leverages between states for possible information sharing and partnering in implementation where appropriate. Ms. Gau discussed GOEI's work with Expect More Arizona's Public Engagement Task force which has joined with Achieve Future Ready Project- aligning with Race to the Top communication funding to create a statewide joint communication campaign. Ms. Gau announced the idea to host a statewide Common Core Conference with the goal to link non-educators who want to assist with regional education needs.

4. Review & Discussion: Implementation of the Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards (Common Core)

Sarah Galetti, from the Arizona Department of Education, provided an update on the work to implement the Arizona Common Core Standards. Ms. Galetti advised that they are currently on schedule with awareness and messaging including;

- Website launch in August
- Developing a survey to evaluate the level of awareness
- Public Awareness campaign
- Coordination with the Regional Centers

Ms. Galetti advised that the Department is also on target with resource development and deployment including;

- IDEAL system capacity
- Master Educators
- EQuIP Rubric
- Potential Lighthouse Schools/Districts/Charters

Ms. Galetti next discussed professional development and advised that the Department is on target in the following areas;

- ADE 2012-2013 training schedule
- Mobilizing a Regional Implementation Support Team
- 8 webinars a month, but is challenged with getting adequate storage space for archived webinars

For evaluation of success, Ms. Galetti discussed the following points;

- PD scores averaging 4.4 out of 5.0
- Survey to evaluate pre and post training knowledge
- Automated mechanism to collect data and track progress in training teachers and administrator
- Common Core Feedback Tool- for educators

5. Review & Discussion: Council Taskforces

Graduation Rate/Drop-out Prevention

Merl Waschler, Chair of the Graduation/Drop-out Prevention Taskforce, provided the Council with the following update:

- Five Guiding Principles of the Task force
 1. There are important benefits to individuals and to society for completing high school
 2. Define high school completion as “college and career readiness”
 3. Adopted National Dropout Prevention framework and prioritized from 15 to four key areas
 4. Recommendations must be relevant to the Governor in one of four ways
 5. Recommendations must focus on statewide frameworks and avoid endorsing one program over another
- Recommendations
 1. Incentives for districts and schools to create “safety nets” that are results driven
 2. CTE/academic pathway alignment
 3. Incentives to create employer centered experiences for students
 4. Change CTE/JTED funding
 5. Enhance implementation of Education and Career Action Plans (ECAPS)
 6. Address kindergarten readiness
 7. Address chronic absenteeism
 8. Quality standards for “after school” youth development programs
- Next steps
 1. Review AZ context related to Achieve Report on CTE and Common Core State Standards
 2. Conduct additional research
 - High school graduation of students outside of assigned cohorts
 - Successful counties and schools to generate additional recommendations
 - CTE completer data to determine what proportion of these students exhibited “risk factors” to drop out prior to taking CTE courses
 3. Flesh out each of the recommendations chosen by the task force and the Arizona Ready Education Council

4. Research any additional recommendations suggested by the task force and the Arizona Ready Education Council
5. Conduct a budget analysis on each of the recommendations and align to funding task force

K-20 Education Funding

Dr. Craig Barrett, Chair of the K-20 Education Funding Taskforce, provided the Council with current recommendations with the aim to move the system from an input oriented funding mechanism to a results oriented mechanism. With this aim in mind the taskforce recommended the following recommendations:

1. Over a set period, repeal the Teacher Experience Index and as well as the 1.25% base level increase for school districts that implement teacher evaluations and redirect those funds to pay for school performance incentives.
2. Provide schools with a bonus for every AP and IB Exam a student passes.
3. Provide a per pupil performance incentive to 'A' schools and to those schools that move up one grade level year over year who also meet certain benchmarks tied to the Arizona Ready Goals.
4. For 'C,' 'D,' and 'F' LEAs, make the optional 200 day school year more financially feasible.
 - Before a district can increase its base support level above the amount allowed in A.R.S. §15-902.04, it must have a plan approved by the State Board of Education that addresses how it will use the additional instructional time to address areas of academic weakness.
 - Require 'F' LEAs to provide a 200 day school year.
 - After 3 years, require a review to ascertain if the LEA is spending the funds in accordance to its approved plan.

6. Council Comments & Next steps

Dr. Jim Zaharis requested further information on funding offered to failing schools for use in intervention programs not just offering funds to already passing schools. Dr. Zaharis also request a look into offering an expanded school year to the students in need not the entire district and use funding for concentrated learning time.

Superintendent Huppenthal requested that an analysis be extended to review the demographic effects between A and B schools.

7. Call to the Public

There were no requests from the public to address the Council.

8. Adjourn

Superintendent John Huppenthal thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in today's meeting and advised that the next meeting of the Council would be **August 29th at 10:00 a.m.**

With no further business before the Council, Superintendent Huppenthal adjourned the meeting at 11:23a.m.